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A N N U A L R E P O R T O F M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

For the Year

1963

Council in Office 1964

Mayor: Alderman J.G. Jezzard, J.P.

Chairman - Public Health Committee

Alderman J.G. Jezzard

Other Members of Council - as at 1.7.64

Alderman G. Cleverly, T.D., B.Sc.,	Councillor B. E. Fagan
Alderman A. H. Jutson	Councillor Mrs P. T. Leith
Alderman A. Mottershead, J.P.	Councillor Mrs C. J. Maughan
Councillor L. R. Barlow, I.R.I.B.A.	Councillor R. J. Sage, B.A.,
Councillor Mrs I. E. Boyle	Councillor A. G. Skinner
Councillor W. C. Claringbould	Councillor J. R. Wheatley, M.C.
Councillor D. F. N. Cox	Councillor N. R. W. Willes

Cinque Port Mayors Deputy -

Brightlingsea: Reginald V. Crook, Esq.
Fordwich: Mr Joseph Ward, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.O.G.
Sarre: Harold G. Farndon, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF 1.7.64

Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector: G. T. Rowlands, C.R.S.I.
Public Health Inspector: W. F. Wilkinson, C.R.S.I.
Clerk: Miss E. V. Miles

Town Clerk: Barrie Roberts, Esq. Borough Treasurer: E.O. Jordan, B.E.M.
Medical Officer of Health: Malcolm S. Harvey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.
Deputy M.O.H. James Hunter, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

The Borough and Port of Sandwich 1963

To His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. G. Jezzard, J.P.)
Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Sandwich

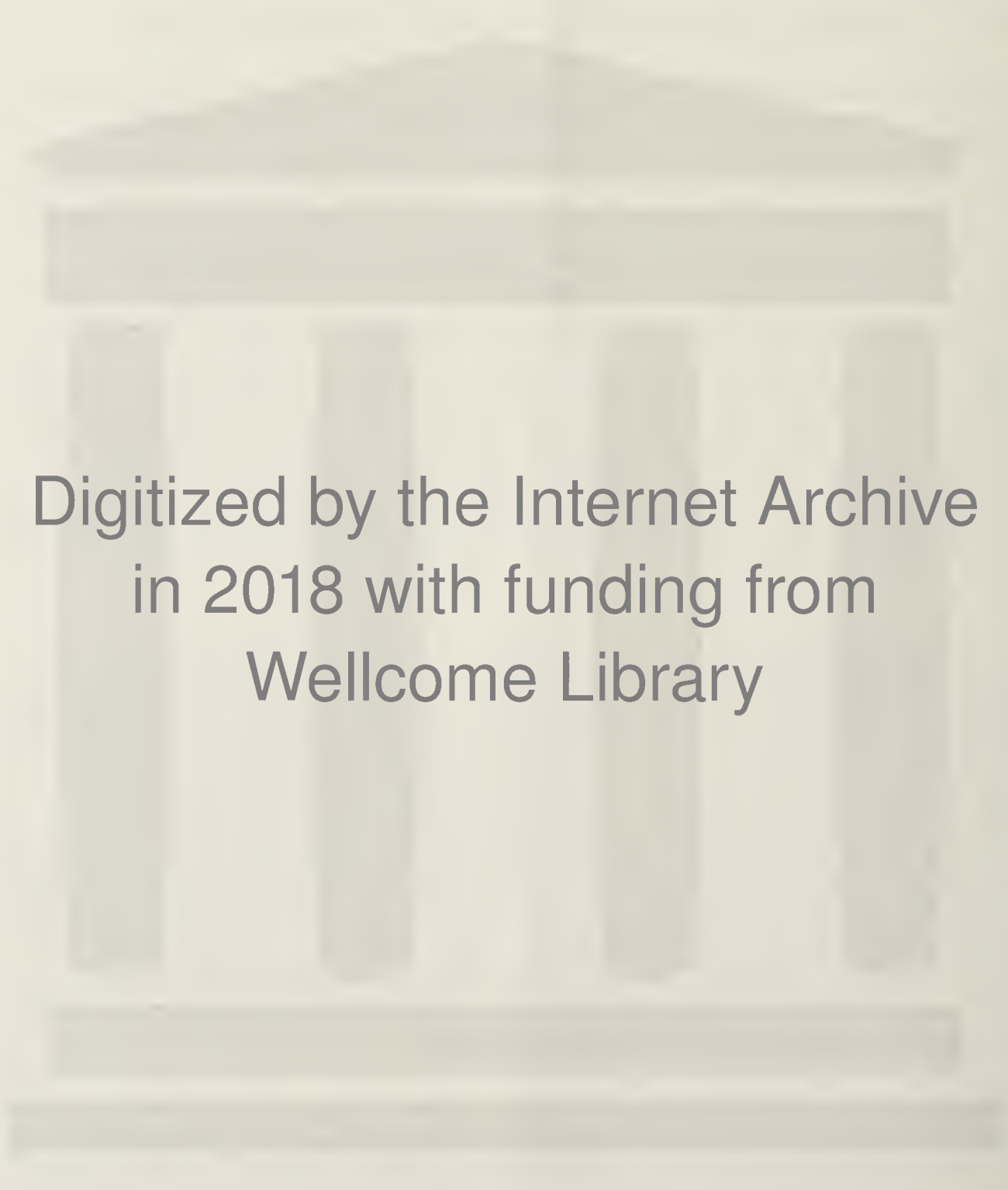
I have the honour to present the report on Sandwich 1963.

The population of the Borough increased by 1.6% over that of the previous year to the total of 4,440 at mid 1963. As the births outnumbered the deaths during 1963 the trend continues (77 births : 65 deaths). A detailed breakdown of the population by age groups was given in the 1962 report, and the likelihood of a continuing problem is providing adequate housing for the elderly in the future was emphasized. In the field of house building by the Council 1963 saw no progress. This brought to a stop any progress in slum clearance or rehousing from individual unfit houses and it is only in the latter half of the present year that the prospect of available houses becomes more real. The Council is wide awake to the consequences of a recent trend that has led to some of the older property in the Borough being bought and rendered fit with improved amenities but only for use during the week-ends. While this may preserve the street picture it deprives the town of some of its life force and community prosperity.

It is dangerous to build conclusions on small totals, but it is nevertheless of interest that the cancer of lung or bronchus deaths fell sharply in 1963. Coronary disease (angina) increased amongst the males. This is a stress disease to which the heavy built, overweight and under exercised are prone. Such casualties in old age must be accepted as a "means to an end", but the occurrence of 5 out of 12 such male deaths in the years of responsibility between 40 and 64 years emphasizes that it is a cause of death worthy of counter attack. The remedy is within reach of everyone, by moderation in eating, especially carbohydrates, moderation in cigarette smoking, and the practice of frequent reasonable exercise in the open air. The front seat of a motor car, even the driving seat, does not qualify as exercise and may well contribute something as a causal factor.

Notifiable infectious diseases have in the main come under control in the last 25 years by the development of immunisation procedures and the power of sulphonamides and antibiotics. But measles, dysentery, and pneumonia remain with us. Acute pneumonia is still the middle age hazard and the old folks friend. Measles is the biannual visitor, and dysentery spreads where poor hygiene permits. We had 9 cases of measles, 5 notifications of acute pneumonia, and 9 of dysentery during the year.

The birth rate of 17.3 per 1000 and the death rate of 14.6 per 1000 are both better figures than those for 1962.



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A detailed enumeration of vital statistics is given later in the report, and the information which follows this introduction is concerned with environmental health factors.

The pressure on the public health staff referred to in the last report was lightened by your appointment of an additional person on Mr Rowland's staff, and routine supervision in the Borough has developed.

The Council's interest in public health affairs is encouraging and local progress even more so.

MALCOLM S. HARVEY

Medical Officer of Health

General Situation.

The area of the Borough remained unchanged at 2,137 acres. The industrial area at Richborough was added to by the completion of the power station and expansion of existing factories.

Water Supply.

The source of the water supply to the Borough is from the Woodnesborough well and adits, through the Woodnesborough pumping station and Beacon Hill reservoir. The Thanet Water Board is now managing the supply. The water is a clear bright water drawn from the chalk, is hard in character but not excessively so. It is not plumbo solvent and has a low fluoride content, well below the desirable 1 part per million recommended as adequate for maximum dental benefit. The supply is chlorinated in the course of distribution.

The industrial area of Richborough is supplied from Thanet sources at Minster, Whitehall via Southwood Reservoir and the Lord of the Manor source, all drawing from the same chalk source and providing a similar water to that produced at Woodnesborough. A typical sample result is given as an appendix to this report.

Samples were taken for test from sampling points on the water mains on 22 occasions and all proved satisfactory. Complaints of over-chlorination of the water supply were received and transmitted to the Thanet Water Board. It is of interest that check samplings on such occasions show the presence of only the necessary precautionary amount. Variations in the presence of a slight chlorinous taste are influenced by other factors than the degree of chlorination within the low limits used, and aromatics in jointing materials may contribute to it.

All dwellings in the Borough receive a piped water supply, totalling 1,529 dwellings, 20 hotels or inns, and 50 shops with dwellings.

Swimming Baths

There is one swimming bath at the Primary School which is out of doors and uses mains water, unheated, with added chlorination. Six routine checks of the water in the pool were carried out, and 3 bacteriological analyses were made. The first of these was unsatisfactory, and improvements in procedure followed with satisfactory samples as a result.

Sewerage

No developments could be reported on the progress of the sewage scheme which will end the discharge of untreated sewage into the river, an undesirable arrangement, even though a survey of the river water in a previous year showed no obvious polluting effects. Incidental defects or blockages in the present system were dealt with during the year.

Refuse Disposal

Weekly collection and disposal of household and factory refuse on the controlled tip was carried out. Some improvement in the Ash Road refuse tip was effected by additional cover and no alternative place for refuse disposal has yet been found. Proposals for disposal by incineration were investigated but not pursued.

Slaughterhouse waste is still disposed of to nearby farmers for composting into manure. Attention was directed to the manner of transport on a trailer and adequate containers demanded, to prevent fouling of the highway.

Public Conveniences

The Public Conveniences at the Cattle Market provide facilities of reasonably hygienic standard. Vandalism breaks out occasionally. Other conveniences at the Quay and the Millwall were maintained as well as possible.

Housing

The programme of routine inspection of houses in the Borough was continued.

- Table I (1) 253 Inspections were carried out.
(2)(a) 114 were inspected and recorded and
(2)(b) 114 visits were made for this purpose.
(3) 7 dwelling houses were found to be unfit for habitation.
(4) 30 dwelling houses (other than those in Item 3) were found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.

Table II	(1) 25 houses were rendered fit by informal action. (2) Formal action under statutory powers was not taken in any case.
Table III	(1) No demolition orders were made during 1963, and (2) no dwelling houses were demolished in pursuance of such orders. (3) There are no houses with outstanding demolition orders awaiting action.
Table IV	No closing orders were placed on properties or parts of properties during 1963.
Table V	There are no unfit houses in temporary use by special arrangements.
Table VI	Seven houses unfit for human habitation were represented in Clearance areas during the year and await action.
Table VII	No dwellings were reported as overcrowded on the statutory standard.

Improvement of Houses

Applications for discretionary grants were submitted and approved in respect of 11 houses. Grants totalling £2,669 were made towards a total cost of £6,301.

One standard grant was applied for, totalling £57 towards the £114 total.

Rent Act Certificates

One such certificate was issued and cancelled during 1963 and there were no such certificates current at the end of the year.

Other forms of dwelling

There is no Common Lodging house in the Borough. There is one caravan site. The site is approved for 50 holiday caravans. Temporary permission was given for 20 caravans to remain in occupation from October to March to meet the local housing needs of key workers on construction work in the area.

Other Environmental matters.

The factory area in Loop Street is kept under close supervision because of the risk of smell nuisance in the locality, surrounded as it is by residential development and public open space.

Complaints from residents were made about the slaughterhouse, not so much from smell as from an aesthetic dislike of hearing the sounds of animals, and the noises of the work, especially on Sundays.

The main factory area on either side of Ramsgate Road at Richborough continued to grow. No nuisance from atmospheric pollution was experienced. The cooling towers of the Richborough Power Station must add something to local humidity but great care has been exercised in development to avoid emission of smoke or dust pollution. The Power Station is a not uncomely feature of the locality seen from a wide area of East Kent which in its massive grace echoes something of the solidity of Richborough Castle nearby.

Factory Inspections (Factories Act 1961)

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	1	1	-
(ii) Factories not in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	37	28	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	1	1	-
Total	39	30	-

No defects were reported from inspections nor referred to the Local Authority by H.M. Inspector.

Outworkers: 26 outworkers were known to be making receptacles of paper. No cases of default in sending in lists came to notice.

Food Supervision

There are 59 premises handling food in the Borough of which 29 were registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act 1955.

In all, 162 inspections were carried out to Food and Food preparation premises.

Condemned food is disposed of by burial in the Council's refuse tip.

The Food Hygiene Regulations are applied by informal action associated with regular inspections.

Bakehouses - 5 inspections Butchers shops - 45 inspections.

All shops and licensed premises in the Borough were visited. Deficiencies in sanitary accommodation, washing arrangements or glass washing facilities were brought to the notice of licensees or owners.

Milk

There are 2 registered distributors and 2 registered dairies. 32 milk samples were taken of which 4 failed for reasons other than the keeping quality of the milk, i.e. 3 delayed in transit, 1 atmospheric shade temperature too high. The 28 other samples were satisfactory as to keeping quality.

No action was required under Section 20 Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959.

Ice Cream

25 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. No premises manufacture ice cream. 14 samples were taken, 13 were Grade I and 1 was Grade II.

Meat

There is one Private Slaughterhouse in the Borough which kills for a wide area of supply. 100% inspection is maintained. The result of meat inspection is shown in the attached table. There is no killing of horses in the Borough and no knackers yard.

Meat Inspection Trends

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Cattle	1931	2777	2365	3241	3380
Calves	933	941	11351	1212	1077
Sheep	14066	9751	6737	10535	9061
Pigs	15261	14769	12734	16671	15734
Total	<u>32191</u>	<u>28238</u>	<u>23187</u>	<u>30388</u>	<u>29252</u>

Weight of meat condemned: 13 tons 7 cwt of meat and offal. (9 tons 12 cwt in 1962). The increase in the amount condemned was due to increase in throughput of manufacturing grade meat.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	2704	676	1077	9061	15734	Nil
Number inspected	2704	676	1077	9061	15734	Nil
<u>All Diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	3	1	55	24	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	290	338	-	588	1085	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.76	50.44	.092	7.1	7.05	

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	1	-	-	103	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	0.29	-	-	0.65	-
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	2	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

Pest Control

Twenty houses, 2 agricultural holdings and 15 business premises were treated for rats during 1963. Bating of sewers is carried out.

Pet Animals Act 1951

The one pet shop in the Borough was inspected occasionally and found to comply with requirements.

Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956

The Market Gardens where picking takes place were inspected but no formal action was taken under these powers.

National Assistance Act, Section 47

There were no cases during the year in which formal action was required for removal to hospital under these powers.

Appendix I

Vital and Morbid Statistics: 1963 Sandwich Borough

Area: 2137 acres

Population: 4440 persons Correction factor Births 1.18

Live births: 77 (Illegitimate 2) " " Deaths 0.70

Males 39 Females 38 2.6% of births Illegitimate
(England & Wales 6.9%)

Stillbirths: 1 Infant Deaths 2 (males) 1 under 1 week, 1 under 4 weeks.

Birth Rate: 17.3 (corrected 20.5) per 1000 population
(England & Wales 18.2)

Perinatal Mortality rate - 26 (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1000 live and stillbirths)

Deaths: 65 Males 38 Females 27

Death Rate: 14.6 (corrected 10.3) per 1000 population
(England & Wales 12.2)

Age of Death	Under 1 wk.	-4 wks	-1 yr	1-34	-44	-54	-64	-74	75+	Total
Males	1	1	-	-	3	2	6	12	13	38
Females	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	6	15	27
Total	1	1	-	-	5	3	9	18	28	65

Causes of death in 1963	Males	Females	Total 1963	1962
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	-	1	4
Other Infectious or Parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-
Cancers: Stomach	2	2	2	1
Lungs or Bronchus	1	-	1	5
Other	2	2	4	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	5	8	13	12
Coronary Disease	12	4	16	11
Other Heart Disease	3	3	6	8
Other Circulatory disease	3	-	3	8
Pneumonia	1	2	3	1
Bronchitis	1	1	2	4
Other respiratory diseases	-	1	1	-
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	-	1	1	1
Pregnancy or childbirth	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2	1
All other accidents	1	-	1	2

Causes of death in 1963	Males	Females	Total 1963	1962
Suicide	-	-	-	1
All other defined or ill defined causes	4	5	9	7
Deaths from all causes	38	27	65	69
Population	2100 ^x	2340 ^x	4440	4370

x approximate

Appendix II

Infectious Diseases

Cases notified during 1963

Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	Nil
Measles	9
Dysentery	9
Acute Pneumonia	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1

Quarterly Totals			
1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	6	3	-
-	8	1	-
5	-	-	-
1	1	-	-
-	-	1	-

Age distribution of cases of

	Under 1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-10	-15	-25	-35	Over 35
Measles	-	1	-	1	2	4	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	2	2	-	-	3	-

One case (male) of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified post mortem.

Appendix III

Water Supply

A pure and wholesome water. A typical analysis of the water supply to the Borough is as follows: Clear and bright, neutral in reaction, free from iron and other metals, hard but not excessively so and of very satisfactory organic quality.

Chemical content in parts per million:-

Chlorine as Chloride	36	Dissolved solids	465
Hardness, total	315	Carbonate	250, non carbonate 65
Nitrate Nitrogen	7.3	Nitrite Nitrogen	less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil	Oxygen absorbed	0.20
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nil		
Free Carbon dioxide	35	pH	7.2
Iron, Zinc, Copper and lead	- absent		

The above is summarised from an analysis provided by Thanet Water Board.

